

Minutes of the CCR-FYI Steering Committee (SC) Meeting

October 28, 2004, Thursday 12:00-1:00 pm

Bethesda: Building 37, Rm 4041, 301-435-7427 (phone: 301-402-9194)

Frederick: Building 549/Conf Rm B (700-848-1113) (phone: 301-846-5864)

The meeting was called to order.

In attendance were:

Bethesda- Vi Black, Val Bliskovsky, Jeffrey Chiang, Swati Choksi, Derrick Cox, Robert Dean, Cem Elbi, Martin Guimond, Mariam Malik, Melinda Merchant, Margaret Pratt, Kwang Suh, Valance Washington.

Frederick- Maja Bumke, Kevin Chang, Arindam Dhar, Humcha Hariprakash, Nicole LaRonde-LeBlanc, Susan Lindtner, Melissa Maderia, Anil Shankar

Excused absences – Ramalakshmi (Lakshmi) Darbha

The meeting was called to order.

1) Subcommittee Reports

a. Retreat Subcommittee (Derrick Cox, Susan Lindtner & Kevin Chang)

The retreat will be Feb 28-March 2 of 2005 at the Marriott in Williamsburg, VA. The abstract deadline is Dec. 13, 2004 and the registration deadline is Jan. 14, 2005. Dr. Rita Colwell, Dr. Margaret Foti, Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach, and Dr. Carl Barrett have been invited to speak.

Susan asked for additional names or ideas for other speakers. Please send these to her by e-mail (lindtners@ncifcrf.gov).

Proposed workshop speakers and/or subject matter include:

1. Skills for the Jobseekers:
2. Career Workshop (Kwang Suh.): All speakers are confirmed and include Dr. Norman Coleman (Lab Chief, Radiation Oncology Branch, NIH. Transitioned from academia to government), Dr. Stefan Ambs (Young PI in NCI. Transitioned from industry to government), and Dr. Robert Balderas (A VP at BD-Bioscience-Pharmingen). A suggestion was put forward to possibly invite a publisher from a journal such as Nature. If the additional speaker would result in too many speakers for this topic it was proposed that the young PI could be switched to the “Skills for the Jobseekers” workshop.

3. Middle-Aged and Still Training (Melinda Merchant): No retirement savings plans (401k, 457, 403b, etc.) available for postdocs/how can fellows save for retirement?; Real estate questions; Financial counseling; How to balance family and research.
4. International Affairs (Anil Shanker and Maja Bumke): Teleconferenced last week. Proposed that each speaker have ~20 min. speak and that they be available to meet personally with interested fellows who make appointments. Advising the speakers in advance of the home countries of the visiting fellows would be useful.
5. Mentorship (Lakshmi Darbha): Lakshmi would like to have a co-chair in Bethesda who could possibly contact recently recognized outstanding mentors. Cem proposed Dr. Alan Rabson (Deputy Director, NCI), to be invited as a speaker for mentorship workshop.
6. Grantsmanship (Melissa Maderia): It is proposed that the NIH grant office set up a mock grant process. Also considering inviting someone who has industry connections or at least have them present a poster.

During the recent teleconference the following itinerary was developed

Day 1: Career Workshop Panel

Day 2: Two time slots with 2 workshops occurring concurrently:

Middle Age and Still Training

International Affairs

Mentorship

Grantsmanship

Day 3: Skills for the Job Seekers

Derrick Cox reported on the invited speakers. Dr. Rita Colwell (Former Director of the National Science Foundation, current Chairman of Canon US Life Sciences) is coming. Dr. Margaret Foti (CEO of AACR) is willing but says she cannot speak about science in general but can give a talk about “Advances in Clinical Sciences”. Two speakers are still needed. Dr. Eric Kandel (Columbia U. Center for Neurobiology and Behavior) is still available and would be the next person to ask. A need for more molecular biology speakers was indicated and Dr. Kandel would nicely fill that need. Dr. Carl Barrett may be asked to give both a scientific talk as well as lead a discussion on the direction of the NCI.

Volunteers are still needed to serve on subcommittees. Please indicate your interest on the attendance list today or contact Kevin Chang (kchang@ncifcrf.gov) if you would like to volunteer.

A discussion regarding the duration of the poster sessions, workshops, meals, and breaks yielded a tentative decision to reduce the 2 hour time proposed for

the poster session, possibly shorten the breaks and reduce the time for workshops from 1 ½ hours.

The names of speakers and associated credentials, list of workshops and times, etc., need to be forwarded to Jean Kazaras soon so that meeting announcements can be assembled.

b. Publicity/Social subcommittee

- Newsletter: Just out this week! YEAH!
- Website: Need to begin posting agenda and committee meeting minutes.
- FELCOM (Melinda Merchant): Career workshops upcoming...
 - Nov. 11, 2004, 9:30-11:30: ?????
 - Dec. 8, 2004, 9:00-11:30: How to Launch A Successful Career in Science Writing
 - Jan. 11, 2005: ?????

Coming up with a new title for “Clinical Fellows” was discussed.

Melinda’s term as CCR-FYI FELCOM liaison will be ending in a couple of months.

c. Scientific Subcommittee

Still trying to get retreat speakers from all core facilities.

2) Other business

3) Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Pratt
Ramalakshmi Darbha
CCR-FYI Secretaries
November 18, 2004